

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 01811 041415Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10
HA-05 L-03 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05
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R 041248Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2361
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1811

FOR IO/UNESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNESCO, PORG, SOPN, NL
SUBJECT: UNESCO: MASS MEDIA DECLARATION

REF: THE HAGUE 1538

1. HEAD OF MFA BUREAU DEALING WITH UNESCO
AFFAIRS JAN BERTELING INFORMED EMBOFF MARCH 28 THAT NEW
DUTCH AMBASSADOR TO UNESCO MAARTEN MOURIK HAD RESPONDED
TO MFA QUERY REGARDING MASS MEDIA DRAFT DECLARATION. IN
AN INTRODUCTORY CALL ON UNESCO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL
FOR CULTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS MAKAGIANSAR, DUTCH AMBASSADOR
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PAGE 02 THE HA 01811 041415Z

LEARNED THAT A SECOND VERSION OF THE DECEMBER 20 DRAFT
WAS BEING STUDIED BY M'BOW. MAKAGIANSAR DID NOT
EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT M'BOW WOULD DROP THE
WHOLE IDEA OF A DECLARATION AT THE OCTOBER-NOVEMBER
GOVERNING COUNCIL, REALIZING THE MAGNITUDE OF PROBLEMS
CAUSED BY TRYING TO FIND AN ACCEPTABLE DECLARATION.
INSTEAD OF WORKING FOR A RESOLUTION, M'BOW MIGHT ONLY

PROPOSE TO HELP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SET UP MEDIA FACILITIES IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE TUNISIAN RESOLUTION IN NAIROBI IN 1976.

2. ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, BERTELING POINTED OUT A DEVELOPMENT WHICH HE THOUGHT COULD HAVE A PERIPHERAL IMPACT ON THE PROSPECTS FOR AN ACCEPTABLE DECLARATION ON MASS MEDIA AT THE GC. AT THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED CONFERENCE ON RACE AND RACIAL PREJUDICE IN PARIS, THE MAJOR STRUGGLE HAD BEEN OVER REFERENCE TO UNGA RES 3379 (ZIONISM/RACISM) IN THE DRAFT DECLARATION ON RACE AND RACIAL PREJUDICE. LATIN AMERICAN AND EAST EUROPEAN GROUPS HAD SOUGHT TO AVOID BEING CAUGHT BETWEEN CONFLICTING POSITIONS OF AFRICAN AND WESTERN GROUPS. THE GHANA DELEGATE HAD PLAYED A SUCCESSFUL MODERATING ROLE AS CHAIRMAN. CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE INFORMATION GROUP HAD BEEN EFFECTIVE. IT NOW SEEMED POSSIBLE THAT THE DRAFT DECLARATION ON RACE AND RACIAL PREJUDICE WOULD BE SENT TO GC WITHOUT THE PARAGRAPH REFERRING TO UNGA RES 3379. BERTELING SAID THAT HE THOUGHT IN THE FUTURE THE REGIONAL GROUPS MIGHT BE MORE WILLING TO COMPROMISE FOR THE SAKE OF AGREEMENT. IN THIS REGARD HE FELT THAT WESTERN CONSULTATIONS WERE ESPECIALLY HELPFUL.

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